

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 AID-05 DOTE-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /029 W

-----161404Z 054180 /46

R 160730Z MAR 77

FM AMCONSUL IBADAN

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2373

AMCONSUL KADUNA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

UNCLAS IBADAN 0175

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, AFSP, NI

SUBJ: STATUS OF NEW IBADAN-LAGOS EXPRESSWAY

1. HAVING JUST MADE THE ROUND-TRIP IBADAN-LAGOS-IBADAN LAST WEEK VIA THE UNCOMPLETED LAGOS-IBADAN EXPRESSWAY, A STATUS REPORT IS IN ORDER. THE ROAD IS COMPLETED ALONG MANY STRETCHES AND MAY BE UTILIZED BY HOLDERS OF PASSES OBTAINED FROM TWO OF THE CONTRACTORS, STRABAG AND BERGER. THE EXPRESSWAY IS ABOUT 110 KMS LONG FROM JUST SOUTH OF IBADAN TO AN EXIT CLOSE TO THE AIRPORT HOTEL IN IKEJA, AND IT WAS COVERED IN A LITTLE LESS THAN 2 HOURS.

2. ROAD CONDITIONS ARE GOOD. 4 LANES ARE COMPLETED ALONG APPROX 80 PERCENT OF THE WAY. SOME SHORT STRETCHES OF 2 LANES ON ONE SIDE HAVE YET TO BE DONE ON ALL THREE CONTRACTS. THE MAIN BRIDGE ON THE MIDDLE SECTION IS ABOUT 2/3RDS COMPLETED. THE PRIMARY WORK YET TO BE ACCOMPLISHED IS THE LAST 25 OR SO KMS BEFORE IKEJA. CONCRETE GIRDER SECTIONS ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED ON PILINGS DRIVEN IN VERY UNSTABLE SAND. IT IS ABOUT 2/3RDS CONSTRUCTED AND HAS YET TO RECEIVE SURFACING. DRIVING IS SMOOTH WITH SEVERAL DELIBERATELY STEEP AND RUTTED SPOTS TO NAVIGATE.

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3. THE ENTIRE EXPRESSWAY WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1977 WITH THE FIRST TWO SECTIONS OUT OF IBADAN DONE BY THE END OF 1976. TO THIS UNTRAINED EYE, THEY WILL HAVE TO WORK VERY HARD INDEED TO FINISH BY THE END OF THIS YEAR. MEANWHILE, UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS, WITH SPECIAL PASSES, WE CAN MAKE THE 90 MILE IBADAN-DOWNTOWN

LAGOS TRIP IN THREE HOURS IF IKEJA-LAGOS TRAFFIC IS THE
NORMAL ONE HOUR. THE SHAGAMU OR ABEOKUTA ROUTES ARE 112 MILES
EACH AND TAKE 4 HOURS UNDER NEAR NORMAL CONDITIONS AND
MUCH LONGER WITH GO-SLOWS IN MAJOR TOWNS.
HOYT

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Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
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